

INFORMATION REGARDING SOM

Standards for the Protection of Minors

International School of Bydgoszcz

This document establishes the Standards for the Protection of Minors (SOM) at the International School of Bydgoszcz. It defines the principles, procedures, and responsibilities aimed at ensuring the safety, dignity, and well-being of all children within the school environment.

SECTION I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Purpose of SOM

The SOM constitute special protective measures designed to safeguard minors, children with disabilities, and children with special educational needs against harm, violence, and sexual offenses. These measures include preventive actions, intervention procedures, notification of competent authorities, and immediate support for the affected child and their guardians, where appropriate.

2. Scope of Application

The SOM apply to:

- All teaching and non-teaching staff, administrative and service personnel, interns, and volunteers.
- Parents and legal guardians.
- Students, in an age-appropriate and accessible form.

3. Review of Standards

The SOM are reviewed at least once every two years to ensure compliance with applicable law and alignment with current institutional needs. Conclusions are documented in writing.

SECTION II – CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The fundamental principle of all actions undertaken by staff is to act in the best interests of the child, with respect for their dignity, safety, and rights. Any form of violence, neglect, or inappropriate conduct is strictly prohibited.

Definitions, responsibilities, and procedures for recognizing, reporting, and responding to threats to child safety are outlined in this policy, including cooperation with law enforcement, social services, and judicial authorities.

SECTION III – INTERVENTION PROCEDURES

All suspected cases of harm must be documented and reported to the School Principal or a designated officer. In urgent situations, emergency services must be contacted immediately. Each intervention is formally recorded and monitored until resolution.

SECTION IV – PROTECTION OF THE CHILD'S IMAGE AND DATA

The school ensures the highest standards of personal data protection in accordance with GDPR and national legislation. Publication of a child's image requires written parental consent, except in

cases where the child's image is incidental to a public setting.

SECTION V – INTERNET ACCESS AND DIGITAL SAFETY

Students may access the internet during school activities only with teacher supervision. Staff are required to promote safe online behavior and protect children from harmful digital content.

SECTION VI – STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES AND TRAINING

All staff members must undergo background verification and regular training in child protection standards. Continuous education ensures awareness of legal obligations, risk indicators, and proper intervention methods.

SECTION VII – MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The implementation of the SOM is monitored through regular surveys conducted among staff, students, and parents. Feedback is used to improve policies and maintain a safe educational environment.

ANNEXES

Annexes include:

- Safe staff-child relationship principles
- Safe recruitment procedures
- Intervention records and reporting forms
- Staff, student, and parent surveys
- Risk assessment matrix
- Blue Card procedure
- Training programs
- Policy update records
- Acknowledgement and receipt declarations

This document enters into force on the date of its official publication and remains binding for all members of the International School of Bydgoszcz community.